

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 03411 151753Z

66

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 108244

R 151655Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1775

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 3411

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CM, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH-CAMEROON NEGOTIATIONS FOR REVISING COOPERATION
ACCORDS

1. RADIO CAMEROON HAS ANNOUNCED THAT PRESIDENT AHIDJO REPORTED
TO JOINT MEETING OCTOBER 13 OF GURC MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF
PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRANCE
FOR REVISING COOPERATION AGREEMENTS PROCEEDING "IN ATMOSPHERE
OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING." HE EXPRESSED WISH THAT AGREEMENTS
BE CONCLUDED RAPIDLY IN NEW COOPERATION FORMULA BETTER SUITED
TO NEEDS WHILE PRESERVING TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE
TWO COUNTRIES. THIS IS FIRST PUBLIC (OR PRIVATE) COMMENT
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HERE SINCE NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN SEPTEMBER 25 WHEN MOPOL MEDIA

USED AFP MATERIAL ON CEREMONIAL OPENING SESSION.

2. ACCORDING FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE, GOF HAS KEPT EMBASSY TOTALLY IN DARK SO FAR ON PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS. SOURCE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT GURC SUBMITTED ITS NEGOTIATING PROPOSALS TO GOF THRU EMBASSY PRIOR TO NEGOTIATIONS. THE PROPOSALS CONSISTED OF COMPLETE REDRAFTS OF 11 ACCORDS. REDRAFTS DESCRIBED BY SOURCE AS UNREALISTIC SHOPPING LIST OF MAXIMUM DEMANDS APPARENTLY INTENDED AS STARTING POINT FOR BARGAINING. CITED AS EXAMPLE GURC PROPOSAL THAT FRANCE ASSUME 100 PERCENT OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EMPLOYMENT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL (AT PRESENT, GURC SHARES IN COSTS--PAYS TRAVEL EXPENSES AND FURNISHES HOUSING), THAT SUCH PERSONNEL PAY CAMEROON INCOME TAXES, AND THAT GURC BE GIVEN 100 PERCENT CONTROL OVER USE AND DISPOSITION OF SUCH PERSONNEL WITH GOF DEPRIVED OF ANY SAY WHATSOEVER. ANOTHER EXAMPLE CITED WAS GURC PROPOSAL THAT WHILE FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICERS CONTINUE TO ENJOY TAX IMMUNITY, STAFF PERSONNEL IN CONSULATES (INCLUDING THOSE SENT FROM FRANCE) BE SUBJECT TO CAMEROON TAXES.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFO AVAILABLE AMEMBASSY PARIS.

MOORE

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